

Significant New Issues Prompt EPA to Offer More Time for Comments on EDS Wells

Because of a new development, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is providing more time to comment on a proposed Agency action that Environmental Disposal Systems Inc. needs to operate existing hazardous waste injection wells in Romulus, Mich. The EPA received significant information about the project after the formal public comment period closed on May 16.

The EPA announced on December 5, 2002, its intention to grant EDS an exemption from land disposal restrictions. Approximately two weeks after the public comment period closed, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality issued a permit to Sunoco Partners Marketing & Terminals, L.P., authorizing Sunoco to extract formation fluid from the Mt. Simon Sandstone under certain defined circumstances, which is also the proposed injection zone for the EDS injection wells. The planned Sunoco extraction well would be one-half mile from the EDS injection wells.

When the EPA proposed to grant the EDS exemption, MDEQ had previously denied Sunoco's permit application which was later granted, so the EPA did not consider the effects of an extraction well. The EPA will accept written comments on the EDS issue until October 6, 2003 – although the comments must be limited only to the effect of the new state permit to Sunoco for an extraction well. EPA will respond to all comments, including those previously submitted, when it issues a final determination on the matter.

Additional information concerning the basis for re-opening the public comment period is available at http://www.epa.gov/region5/water/uic/pubpdf/eds_extension.pdf. It is also available at:

Eshelman Library
Henry Ford Community College
501 Evergreen
Dearborn, Michigan 48128

Romulus Public Library
11121 Wayne Road
Romulus, Michigan 48174

Taylor Community Library
12303 Pardee Road
Taylor, Michigan 48180

Comments should be addressed to:

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